



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

IN REPLY
REFER TO:
MP-100
WTR-1.00

April 16, 1999

Honorable Mike Machado
California Senate
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Machado:

We would like to take this opportunity to clarify the actions taken by Reclamation to implement flow targets for fish on the San Joaquin River at Vernalis. On April 12, 1999, Reclamation executed a 1-year funding agreement (copy enclosed) with the San Joaquin River Group Authority to provide water sufficient to achieve a 7,000 cfs flow at Vernalis. This agreement is consistent with the 12-year San Joaquin River Agreement (commonly referred to as VAMP), but is only a single-year effort. The 12-year agreement has not been implemented and has not been signed by all parties.

Flow increases as prescribed in the 1-year funding agreement were initiated on April 12, 1999, and are expected to last until May 18, 1999. Reclamation remains committed to resolving the issues addressed in CALFED's March 15, 1999, letter (copy enclosed). Hopefully this will clarify any confusion regarding the term of the contract which is being used to modify flows this year.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance. My office can be reached at 916/978-5000 (TDD 978-5608).

Sincerely,

Kirk C. Rodgers
Acting Regional Director

Enclosures (2)

Identical Letters Sent To:

Honorable Jim Costa
California Senate
Sacramento, California 95814

Honorable Dennis Cardoza
California Senate
Sacramento, California 95814

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